REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 are pending in the present application. No claim amendments are presented, thus no new matter is added.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hashizume et al. (U.S. Pub. 2003/0142955, herein Hashizume) in view of Smith et al. (U.S. Pat. 5,822,542, herein Smith) and Seo (U.S. Patent No. 6,798,980).

In response to the above noted rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1, 5 and 6 recite novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by the applied references.

Independent Claim 1, for example, recites, in part, an information processing apparatus capable of copying image information recorded on a first recording medium onto a second recording medium, comprising:

> display control means for controlling displaying of a copying operation window which includes a first icon corresponding to the first recording medium, at least one image information icon corresponding to the image information recorded on the first recording medium and a second icon corresponding to the second recording medium;
> moving means for selecting and moving one of the at least one image information icon in the copying operation window to the second icon;
> determining means for determining if the moving means moves the one of the at least one image information icon to the second icon;
> *means for requesting a user input based on a result of the determining means*;
> *first setting means for setting whether or not a data format of the image information determined as an object of copying by the moving means should be converted based on the user input ...*

Independent Claims 5-6, while directed to alternative embodiments, recite similar features.

In rejecting the above-emphasized claimed feature directed to requesting user input based on the result of determining whether an image information icon is moved to the second

icon corresponding to the second recording medium (to which the data is recorded), the

Office Action relies on paragraphs [0057-0061] of Hashizume.

This cited portion of Hashizume refers to Fig. 8 and generally describes a process of

copying (i.e. "dubbing") images by a control computer 203, from a video reproducing

apparatus 201 to a video recording/reproducing apparatus 207, which records the input image

in the video recording medium 210. Hashizume further describes that the control computer

203 monitors an image entered from the switcher 213 by using software stored in a memory

of the control computer 203 to detect a scene change point, image disturbance by noises, a

presence/absence of a subliminal image and the like and store a still image added with a time

code representative of the time when the change point or noises are detected, in the log image

file unit 214 as video log data. A GUI operation/ control screen is displayed on the display

204 and if a log image is to be viewed, a log image display push button displayed on the GUI

operation/control screen on the display 204 is clicked to pop up the top window with log

images.

In view of the large portion of Hashizume cited to reject this feature, it is unclear

which features are actually being asserted as analogous to the claimed "*means for requesting*

a user input based on a result of the determining means". However, assuming that the

generation and/or display of the log file is being asserted as analogous as "requesting user

input", the generation and display of this file is not performed based on the result of

determining whether an image information icon is moved to the second icon corresponding to

the second recording medium (to which the data is recorded), as claimed. Instead, the log file

in Hashizume is generated in response to the actual process of copying image data from the

video reproducing apparatus 201 to the video recording/reproducing apparatus 207, and not

in response to a request to initiate such a process, as claimed.

Further, the generation and/or display of this log file is <u>not</u> the same as "*requesting a user input*". Instead, as noted above, the log file in <u>Hashizume</u> is only displayed if a <u>log image display push button is clicked</u>. Therefore, an initial user interaction is necessary in order for a user to actually view the generated log file. Moreover, <u>Hashizume</u> fails to disclose that the log file is capable of receiving a user input, whatsoever.

Therefore, <u>Hashizume</u> fails to teach or suggest that his device includes "*means for requesting a user input based on a result of the determining means* [that determines if the moving means moves the one of the at least one image information icon to the second icon]", as recited in independent Claim 1.

Independent Claim 1 further recites that information processing apparatus includes "first setting means for setting whether or not *a data format of the image information determined as an object of copying* by the moving means *should be converted based on the user input*". As noted above, <u>Hashizume</u> fails to teach or suggest generating a request for a user input based on a determined initiation of the copying operation, as claimed, and therefore also fails to teach or suggest the above noted claimed feature.

Nonetheless, the Office Action cites paragraphs [0009], [0018] and [0048-0049] of <u>Hashizume</u> as disclosing this feature. As an initial matter, none of these cited portions of <u>Hashizume</u> relate to changing a data format based on the generation and/or display of a log file. Claim 1 clearly recites that the setting is based on *the* user input, thereby relying on antecedent basis to the feature of "*requesting a user input ...*". None of the above noted portions of <u>Hashizume</u>, however, relate to setting a format based on the display and/or generation of a log file, which appears to be asserted as analogous to the claimed "*requesting a user input ...*". For this reason alone, Applicants respectfully submit that <u>Hashizume</u> fails to disclose "setting whether or not a data format of the image information determined as an

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object of copying by the moving means should be converted based on *the user input*", as

claimed.

Moreover, none of paragraphs [0009], [0018] and [0048-0049] of Hashizume teach or

suggest requesting a data format conversion, much less that such a request is determined prior

to a copy operation (e.g., "setting whether or not a data format of the image information

determined as an object of copying"), as claimed. Particularly, paragraph [0009] of

Hashizume merely describes, in general terms, the process of copying (i.e. "dubbing") images

by a control computer 203, from a video reproducing apparatus 201 to a video

recording/reproducing apparatus 207. Paragraph [0018] of Hashizume further describes the

process of recording a log file that indicates abnormalities, screen switchovers, etc. while the

recording is in process, and fails to teach or suggest setting a format conversion of data,

whatsoever. Finally, paragraphs [0048-0049] of Hashizume relate to Fig. 15, which shows a

hardware configuration having a plurality of video reproducing apparatuses 201-1, 201-2, etc.

that can be selected as sources for data that is sent to the video recording/reproducing

apparatus, and is no now way related to converting a data format.

Therefore, Hashizume fails to disclose receiving a request for format data conversion,

whatsoever, much less that such a request is based on a request from a "*means for requesting*

a user input based on a result of the determining means [that determines if the moving

means moves the one of the at least one image information icon to the second icon]".

Specifically, Hashizume fails to teach or suggest that his control computer 203 includes

"*means for requesting a user input based on a result of the determining means* [that

determines if the moving means moves the one of the at least one image information icon to

the second icon] ... [and] *first setting means for setting whether or not a data format of the*

image information determined as an object of copying by the moving means should be

converted based on the user input ...", as recited in independent Claim 1.

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Further, neither <u>Smith</u> nor <u>Seo</u> remedy the above noted deficiencies of <u>Hashizume</u>.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully request

that the rejection of Claims 1, 5 and 6 (and the claims that depend therefrom) under 35 U.S.C.

§ 103 be withdrawn.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing

comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 1-14 is patentably

distinguishing over the applied references. The present application is therefore believed to be

in condition for allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of the application is

therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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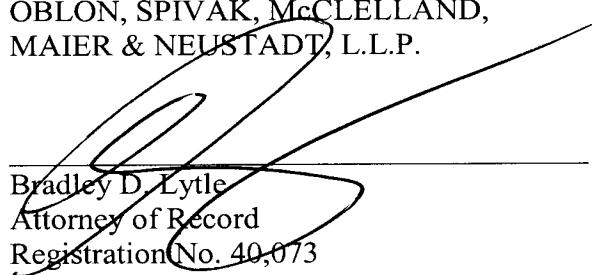
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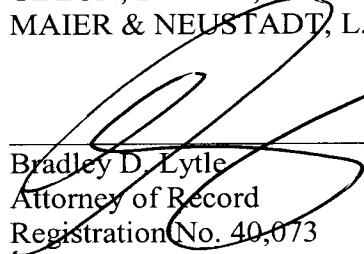
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